

**To:** Crossland, Ronnie[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov]  
**From:** Garcia, David  
**Sent:** Tue 8/11/2015 12:01:07 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Water Quality Criteria - Animas River

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**From:** Watson, Jane  
**Sent:** 8/10/2015 5:42 PM  
**To:** Gray, David  
**Cc:** McCoy, Melinda; Garcia, David; \$F Div. Weekly; Crossland, Ronnie; Restivo, Angela  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Criteria - Animas River

Hello David,

We've looked into this.

Working with the Environmental Unit in Superfund, Water Division provided some programmatic benchmarks, namely the New Mexico Water Quality Standards, that could factor into the EU's assessment. They may choose from other benchmarks, depending on the pollutant. The WQS themselves have several different values for the same chemical, depending on the uses a water supports (supporting a fishery from short term effects or long term effects, eating fish safely, raw drinking water source, eg).

The EU will derive the list of benchmarks the sediment and/or water data is compared to, this might not be the whole suite of New Mexico WQS. For this reason, we're thinking referencing the New Mexico WQS won't inform folks.

Thanks,

Jane

**From:** Garcia, David  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 1:15 PM

**To:** Gray, David  
**Cc:** Watson, Jane; McCoy, Melinda  
**Subject:** FW: Water Quality Criteria - Animas River

David,

Please hold on making this document public. Our water quality technical experts prefer to QA and double check spreadsheet. Stay tuned for update.

David F. Garcia

Deputy Director

Water Quality

Protection Division

U.S. EPA Region 6

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**From:** Garcia, David  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 11:50 AM

**To:** David Gray  
**Cc:** McCoy, Melinda; Watson, Jane; Ronnie Crossland ([Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov](mailto:Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov)); Restivo, Angela  
**Subject:** FW: Water Quality Criteria - Animas River

David,

Per your request attached are the NM WQS that apply to the Animas River. Please note, there are two tabs.

David F. Garcia

Deputy Director

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**From:** Brown, Jamesr

**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 11:08 AM  
**To:** Garcia, David  
**Subject:** FW: Water Quality Criteria - Animas River

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**From:** [McCoy, Melinda](#)  
**Sent:** 8/7/2015 2:36 PM  
**To:** [Brown, Jamesr](#); [Kirkland, Robert](#); [McCasland, Mark](#); [Garcia, David](#); [Restivo, Angela](#)  
**Cc:** [Foster, Althea](#); [Crossland, Ronnie](#); [Webster, Susan](#); [Martinez, Maria](#); [Crocke, Philip](#); [Nelson, Russell](#)  
**Subject:** Water Quality Criteria - Animas River

Hi Everyone,

Earlier this morning, David and Maria asked me to compile the WQS applicable to the Animas River, and to identify any previous water quality impairments (303d listings) identified. Earlier today, I sent them a list of the applicable designated uses and the 303(d) listing information (see emails forwarded below).

Additionally, I have compiled an Excel spreadsheet showing the water quality criteria applicable to the two Animas River segments. Please see attached Excel file.

Thanks,

Melinda

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Melinda McCoy, Environmental Scientist

Water Quality Standards Program

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mccoy.melinda@epa.gov

**From:** McCoy, Melinda  
**Sent:** Friday, August 07, 2015 11:31 AM  
**To:** Garcia, David; Martinez, Maria; Brown, Jamesr  
**Cc:** Nelson, Russell  
**Subject:** Animas River WQS

Hi David and Maria,

The Animas River is a considered classified water. It is split into 2 segments between the NM/CO state line and it's confluence with the San Juan River. Estes Arroyo is the dividing line between the 2 segments. (See NMAC 20.6.4.403-404).

The table below shows the designated uses applicable to these 2 segments:

**Animas from confluence with Animas from Estes Arroyo**

**San Juan upstream to Estes      upstream to NM/CO line**

**Arroyo**

Marginal coldwater and warmwater	Coldwater
Primary Contact	Primary Contact
Public Water Supply	Public Water Supply
Industrial Water Supply	Industrial Water Supply
Irrigation	Irrigation
Livestock watering	Livestock watering
Wildlife Habitat	Wildlife Habitat

The criteria applicable to each of these designated uses can be found in NMAC 6.4.900 (see attachment). I can compile all of this into an Excel spreadsheet, but for the sake of time, I'm just including the attachment right now.

Note that the DO, temperature, and pH criteria differ for each aquatic life use:

**Coldwater:** dissolved oxygen 6.0 mg/L or more, 6T3 temperature 20°C (68°F), maximum temperature 24°C (75°F) and pH within the range of 6.6 to 8.8. Where a single segment-specific temperature criterion is indicated in 20.6.4.101-899 NMAC, it is the maximum temperature and no 6T3 temperature applies.

**Marginal Coldwater:** dissolved oxygen 6 mg/L or more, 6T3 temperature 25°C (77°F), maximum temperature 29°C (84°F) and pH within the range from 6.6 to 9.0. Where a single segment-specific

temperature criterion is indicated in 20.6.4.101-899 NMAC, it is the maximum temperature and no 6T3 temperature applies.

**Warmwater:** dissolved oxygen 5 mg/L or more, maximum temperature 32.2°C (90°F) and pH within the range of 6.6 to 9.0. Where a segment-specific temperature criterion is indicated in 20.6.4.101-899 NMAC, it is the maximum temperature.

I'll send you the 303d information as soon as I gather it.

Thanks,

Melinda

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Melinda McCoy, Environmental Scientist

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**From:** McCoy, Melinda  
**Sent:** Friday, August 07, 2015 11:44 AM  
**To:** Garcia, David; Martinez, Maria; Brown, Jamesr  
**Cc:** Nelson, Russell  
**Subject:** Animas 303d listings (2014-2016 reporting cycle)

Hi David, Maria, and Jim,

From New Mexico's 2014-2016 Integrated Report. Here are the impairments identified for the Animas River (categories 4 and 5).

8- digitHUC USGSName HUC	AU_I AU Name	WASTEWQS SIZE REF ID	IR PAIRMENT Category	EPA Category (by AU)	CYC STATUS	TMDL	FIRS Approval Date
14080104 14080104	NM- Animas River (Estes 2404_00royo to So. Ute Indian Tribe bnd)	18.8 MILES. 1.404i	5/5B	TMDL Completed30	2013-09-2012 00:00:00		

1408Ah04 has NM- Animas River (Estes 2404_Arroyo to So. Ute Indian Tribe bnd)	18. <del>MILES</del> 104	Phosphorus,5/5B total	TMDL Completed30	2013-09-2012 00:00:00 303(d)
1408Ah04 has NM- Animas River (Estes 2404_Arroyo to So. Ute Indian Tribe bnd)	18. <del>MILES</del> 104	Temperature5/5B	List (no TMDL in place) 303(d)	1998
1408Ah04 has NM- Animas River (Estes 2404_Arroyo to So. Ute Indian Tribe bnd)	18. <del>MILES</del> 104	Dissolved 5/5B	List (no TMDL in place)	2012
1408Ah04 has NM- Animas River (San 2403. <u>A</u> River to Estes Arroyo)	16. <del>MILES</del> 1.403	4A	TMDL Completed30	2013-09-2012 00:00:00
1408Ah04 has NM- Animas River (San 2403. <u>A</u> River to Estes Arroyo)	16. <del>MILES</del> 1.403	Eutrophication 4A	TMDL Completed17	2006-01-2004 00:00:00
1408Ah04 has NM- Animas River (San 2403. <u>A</u> River to Estes Arroyo)	16. <del>MILES</del> 1.403	Temperature4A	TMDL Completed30	2013-09-2012 00:00:00
NM- 1408Ah04 has 9000.Ba00 Farmington (Beeline Reservoir)	198ACRES 100	Mercury in fish tissue	303(d) List (no TMDL in place)	2004

### Category Description

**4A** Available data and/or information indicate that at least one designated or existing use is not being supported, but a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is not needed because TMDLs have been already been established.

**5A** Available data and/or information indicate that at least one designated or existing use is not being supported and necessary TMDLs are underway or scheduled.

**5B** Available data and/or information indicate that at least one designated or existing use is not being supported and a review of the water quality standard will be conducted to verify appropriateness.

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Melinda McCoy, Environmental Scientist

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